



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL CHRIS S. COLLINS

Colonel Chris S. Collins is Commander of the 155th Operations Group, 155th Air Refueling Wing, Nebraska Air National Guard, Lincoln, Nebraska. The wing operates eight KC-135R aircraft providing global reach and airpower projection of expeditionary forces in support of worldwide combat, contingency and humanitarian requirements through air refueling, airlift and aero-medical evacuation missions.

Colonel Collins joined the Nebraska Air National Guard in May of 1983 when he enlisted as a photo processing specialist in the 173 Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in May of 1988 through the Academy of Military Science at Knoxville, Tennessee and attended Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training (SUNT) at Mather AFB, CA. He then completed RF-4C school at the RTU in Boise, ID as a Weapon Systems Officer (WSO), and returned to Lincoln to fly the RF-4C Phantom.



In 1993 he was selected to attend Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT) at Columbus AFB, MS and upon graduation from the KC-135R RTU at Castle AFB, CA in 1994, he returned home to the 173rd ARS to fly the KC-135R Stratotanker as a traditional guardsman. In 1997, he upgraded to Aircraft Commander. In 1999, Colonel Collins became a full-time Active Guard Reserve (AGR) member and has since held positions as Wing Plans Officer, Chief of Scheduling and Current Operations, Chief of Wing Plans, Chief of Tactics and Training, Flight Commander, Assistant Director of Operations, Director of Operations and Commander of the 173rd Air Refueling Squadron. He also serves as an Instructor and Evaluator pilot.

Colonel Collins is a command pilot with more than 3960 hours flight time including combat and combat support in contingency operations: Allied Force, Joint Forge, Deliberate Guard, Decisive Endeavor, Northern Watch, Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

EDUCATION

1991 Bachelor of Science in Economics, University of Nebraska-Omaha
1996 Squadron Officer School in residence, Maxwell AFB, AL
2003 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence
2004 Master of Business Administration, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
2006 Air War College, by correspondence
2006 Combat Aircrew Tactics Course, McGuire AFB, NJ
2011 Advanced Joint PME, Joint Forces Staff College, Norfolk. VA

ASSIGNMENTS

1. September 1983 - September 1986, Photo Processing Specialist, 173TRS, Lincoln, NE
2. October 1986 - May 1988, Production Control Supervisor, 173TRS, Lincoln, NE
3. May 1988 - Feb 1989, Student, Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training, Mather AFB, CA
4. February 1989 - April 1989, Student, WSO Fighter lead-in Training, Holloman AFB, NM
5. May 1989 - December 1989, Student, RF-4C Replacement Training Unit, 189TRS, Boise, ID
6. December 1989 - February 1993, RF-4C Weapons Systems Officer, 173TRS, Lincoln NE

ASSIGNMENTS cont

7. February 1993 - February 1994, Student, Undergraduate Pilot Training, 14FTW, Columbus AFB, MS
8. March 1994 - June 1994, Student, KC-135R Replacement Training Unit, 93ARS, Castle AFB, CA
9. June 1994 - June 1997, KC-135R Combat Ready Pilot, 173ARS, Lincoln, NE
10. July 1997 - November 1998, KC-135R Aircraft Commander, 173ARS, Lincoln, NE
11. November 1998 - December 2003, Wing Plans Officer, 155ARW, Lincoln, NE
12. December 2003 - January 2005, Chief of Current Operations, 155OSF, Lincoln, NE
13. January 2005 - March 2006, Chief of Wing Plans, 155ARW, Lincoln, NE
14. March 2006 - March 2007, Chief of Training and Tactics, 155OSF, Lincoln, NE
15. March 2007 - April 2008, Flight Commander/Asst. Director of Operations, 173ARS, Lincoln, NE
16. April 2008 - September 2010, Director of Operations, 173ARS, Lincoln, NE
17. September 2010 - July 2011, Commander, 173ARS, Lincoln, NE
18. July 2011 - Present, Commander, 155th Operations Group, Lincoln, NE

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight Hours: Over 3,900

Aircraft Flown: T-37, T-38, AT-38B, T-43, RF-4C, KC-135R/E

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with 1 oak leaf cluster

Air Medal

Aerial Achievement Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal with 2 oak leaf clusters

Joint Meritorious Unit Award

Meritorious Unit Award with 1 oak leaf cluster

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with 9 oak leaf clusters

Combat Readiness Medal with 7 oak leaf clusters

Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with 1 oak leaf cluster

National Defense Service Medal with service star

Armed Forces Expeditionary medal

Kosovo Campaign Medal

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Armed Forces Services Medal

Humanitarian Service Medal

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal

Air Force Overseas Ribbon Short

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon

Air Force Longevity Service Award with 5 oak leaf clusters

Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 2 'M' Devices

Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with service star

Air Force Training Ribbon with 1 oak leaf cluster

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant - 16 May 1988

First Lieutenant - 16 May 1991

Captain - 11 June 1993

Major - 15 August 1999

Lieutenant Colonel - 15 August 2006

Colonel - 20 August 2012

(Current as of May 2013)